

DDJC: QUIET EXCELLENCE!

By Polly Charbonneau

If you've visited Defense Distribution Center San Joaquin, California (DDJC) lately, you've probably heard the phrase, "QUIET EXCELLENCE!" Colonel Edward Visker, DDJC Commander, uses it around DDJC.

COL Visker explains the phrase this way: "QUIET EXCELLENCE is a frame of mind I encourage for going about our business. It's the manner in which a premier logistics organization operates day in and day out. And, as a strategic distribution center, it is even more our role. Though we are not at the forefront of operations or maneuvers, the role we play is vital. QUIET EXCELLENCE portrays DDJC's role as a logistics leader.

"QUIET EXCELLENCE also represents a leadership philosophy that I encourage. The philosophy goes something like this . . . 'as for the best leaders you don't notice their existence . . . the next best you honor and praise . . . the next the people fear and the next the people hate . . . When the best leaders work is done the people say—we did it ourselves.' (China, Circa 400 BC)

DDJC is the western DLA's Strategic Distribution Platform with facilities at Tracy and Lathrop. The two distribution facilities occupy 1,632 acres and are located some 16 miles apart. The distribution center's mission is to receive, store, and ship Government-owned supplies and equipment, primarily to military customers in the western US and the Pacific Theater of operations, with additional worldwide capabilities.

As a Strategic Distribution Platform, DDJC serves as the west coast hub for distribution activities. The distribution center currently stores a wide range of supplies and equipment commonly ordered by the military services, including clothing and textiles, food, medical supplies, construction materials, and electrical supplies/components, among others.

Through QUIET EXCELLENCE!, DDJC is striving to become a worldwide leader in integrated logistics via innovative business partnerships with commercial carriers, as well

as with supported customers, by providing tailored logistic/velocity management initiatives that ensure logistical support is provided to meet customer requirements and expectations.



DDJC Visker in Bin Receiving.

The Cadillac of Carts for Stock Selectors

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

Derrel Reaves, a packer at Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA (DDJC), needed a larger mobile work area to pack the items he was selecting. So Reaves got out some cardboard and a utility knife and started working on the "Cadillac Cart" as he calls it.

He designed the cart so it would accommodate up to three times the stock carried by the standard issue carts. The new cart also holds more in the way of packing materials, like

Packer Derrel Reaves uses the Cadillac Cart he designed that features a slanted collection bin that allows material he packed to slide down to the opposite end so that work doesn't stack up in front of him.



masking tape, paper bags, and jiffy bags. It makes it easier on him ergonomically because his packing materials and worktable are at the right level. The Cadillac Cart also features an enlarged, slopped top that holds more items and prevents this holding area from backing up.

Reaves' idea was such a big hit that his coworkers all want one. Plans are underway for the carts to be fabricated out of metal and issued to his teammates.